

(281)

Niches. Statues for.
Paris. Feb 24. 1874,

Copy of letter.

With regard to Statues
for Niches. on outside
of Building.

✓

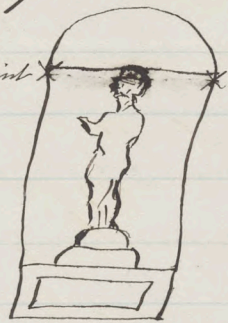
"objects of the figures, Art, Painting
&c &c. This is a thing to examine
& if it can be well carried out,
would I am sure do well."

281

Cop^y Paris 24th February 1874

"The Debay terra-cotta figures are com-
-mon things & cannot be called Art &
there are not 13 of them that would suit.
Nos. 435. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444 & 445 page 5
& Nos. 453 & 455 page 6 are about all that
might do. They said they had (which I
did not see & are not in the catalogue)
2 of Canovas dancing girls about same
size. If you are resolved on economy
you might suggest their taking on trial
some few of these figures (say 4) & if they
don't suit they could be put in the garden
of the Louvre home, after a trial or
use in waiting for better things. I once
sent Avery 2 of these figures you might
ask him about them and where they are
to be seen in N. Y. Since your letter
I have been looking about and can say
what I have seen at the Louvre & a
better guide I think cannot be had."

" In the interior Court all the niches are not yet filled and it ^{is} some time since Francis first - These Statues are of white marble - 2 of them were on the ground & they are not quite my height (I am about 6 ft.) & they are placed in the 1st 2nd & 3rd stories - so I don't think it would be necessary to have for the Leocoran statues larger than life, as you thought. Some of the Statues, under Napⁿ III, were paid as much as 8000 fs - On the outside, in the beautiful facade on the Seine, where are the friezes of Jean Goujon, there are 13 niches & these are filled with stone statues, as I proposed, and produce a very fine effect. The ^{Springing point} ~~Top of the heads of~~ none of these statues either outside or in are placed higher than the springing point of the arch of the niche. In the largest niche of which you sent drawing there is 8 ft. 6 in. from bottom



" of niche to springing point - take off 2 ft. 6 in. for the pedestal & you will have just 6 ft., the height necessary for the statue. I am convinced from observation that the best effect is produced when the top of the head of the Statue ends at the springing point of the Arch. From your drawing the pedestals are marked 3 ft. 2 in. - are they in place, if so, cannot they be replaced by others of necessary height - In reference to these Stone Statues I have seen an artist sculptor who says he will execute them at 2000 or 2500 fs but thinks they can be done for 2000 fs. If you are willing to spend this sum a trial might be made with 4 to commence and I have thought if it can be done to have the artist inspire himself with the 4 figures of Jean Goujon of which you have the bronze bas reliefs, & portray by suitable objects instead of the vases they hold the

U. S. Patent Office,
Washington, D. C., Dec 26, 1872.

Gov. H. H. Cooke

Sr Sir

As one of the trustees of
the "Corcoran Art Gallery" I have been
intending for sometime past to call
your attention, and that of the other
trustees, to the largest & best collection
of Stereoscope pictures perhaps in the
world, which the owner has been many
years in collecting - possessing facilities
which perhaps no other person has had,
or at present has, this ~~be~~ owing to his
wonderful collection being known to our
largest dealers & importers, who send
him, unorderd, thousands at a time

to select from. Many of his pictures
can never be replaced. They embrace
everything interesting as well as artistic
pertaining to almost every country
on the face of the globe. It introduces
"landscape scenery", architecture, manners
and Customs. Statuary, groups, trans-
parencies, natural history, botany &c
I wish his catalogue were printed so
that one could get an approximate idea
of this wonderful collection, the Coun-
terpart of which is not in existence.

This collection now numbers
nearly, if not 90,000, all choice, selected
works. Should not the Corcoran Art
Gallery secure it? Mr Smith the
owner, a clerk in the City Post Office

in gathering this Museum, did it,
without any idea of parting with
it; but many of his friends have
been urging him to forego the pleasure
of holding it, and sell it to some such
institution as the one before referred to.
Many of his beautiful illuminated
works, such as the Operas in Paris,
must have cost him over or at least
a dollar a piece. I think the Col-
lection can be bought for \$35,000 may be
less. For a year or two longer perhaps
a couple of thousand dollars can be
judiciously expended to fully complete
it. I suppose Mr Smith, who lives at
the S W Cor of 8th and Mth Ave^s ^{N.W.} would take
pleasure in showing you or any

of the gentlemen associated with
you, the extent and superior char-
acter of his collection, which I
can give you no idea of in this
hurred communication.

Truly Yours

S. S. Fahnestock

S. S. Fahnestock (177)
New York
May 26/72
\$35.000
Ballo attention to 90.000
Microscopic pictures for

Lucas. G. A.

(282)

Paris Mar 4, 1874,

With regard to Rebonet's
Picture of "Night"

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

Doery S. P. (283)
N. Y. Apr 6/74
Apr 7/74,

Has returned Stewart's
head of Express.

Encloses bill for frame.
Whole expense \$42,



COCORAN GALLERY OF ART,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

my rooms awaiting the frame
the principal artists come to see
it Huntington - Baker - Stone -
Hicks & and all united in
saying it was "great". I had
a simple and old style frame
put on thinking it in better
keeping than the present fashion
of heavy frames with a profusion
of ornament - this style
also will remain in good
order for a long time.

I enclose the bill for frame
and the other charges are
5/6 for retouching. Making 2
42/6 in all. With thanks

for the pleasure of engraving
so fine a picture I remain
Yours most truly John

Sam. P. Avery

S. P. AVERY

88 Fifth Ave.



ART ROOMS

near 14 St.

New-York Apr 6 - 1874

Mr. MacLeod -

Dear Sir.

I have send today the
 Stuart head in frame - after
 the spots we filled in the
 back ground, the picture has
 merely washed and the thinnest
 coat of varnish put on, I think
 that the face has at some time
 been cleaned & some of the touch
 rubbed off - but as it stands
 it is one of the finest Stuart
 I know of and which it was in

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New York, *Mch 31* 1874*Mr S. P. Avery*Bought of **THOMAS A. WILMURT,**

MANUFACTURER OF

Looking-Glasses & Picture-Frames,

54 EAST THIRTEENTH ST., 3 doors West of Broadway.

*1 gilt frame 23 1/4 x 38 1/2**\$35.00*

(284)

Thayer, Sanford.

Syracuse April 4/74
April 7/74

Will send his picture
of Mr Elliott to the
Gallery of Exports on
Monday. (Apr 6)

Syracuse, April, 4. 1874.

✓
Dear Mr. Machoud; Your favor of
31. ult; notifying me of the action of the
Cyprian Art Comm. in reference to my
sending on my portrait of Mr. Elliott
reached me this morning, and I hasten
to accede to their requirements, and on
Monday next I shall endeavor to express
to you the picture, chips for paid. Then like
a poor d-d anxiously wait with fear &
trembling the final verdict, which I hope
will come short of "six months."

Were I sure of a sale I would have the frame
regilt before shipping it off; still it does not
really need it, and I shall submit it as
it is and hope for the best.

With many thanks for
your kindness etc. I am respectfully,
Sanford Thayer.

(285)

Candida, Sister Mary,
New Orleans. Mar 27/74
April 3/74.

Speaks of a gentleman (Mr
C. J. O'Hara) who has a col-
lection of pictures to dispose
of - & mentions.

"Emicaption" said to be by,
Valasquez Dondiego.
"Last Supper" said to be by,
Raphael, }
"Adoration of the Magi" by
Van Dyke.

declined



said to have been painted by
Raphael, and "The Adoration of
the Magi" by Van Dyke.
 Hoping, dear Sir, that you
will pardon the liberty I
have taken.

I am, most respectfully,
Sister Mary Candida.

W. W. Corcoran, Esq.,
Washington
D. C.

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Sister Mary Candida
+ St. Vincent's School
Mch 27. 1874

Recd. Apr. 3.
Ans. C. M. W.

New Orleans, La.
March 27th, 1874.

W. W. Corcoran Esq.;
Dear Sir,

One of
your great and noble deeds has suggest-
ed the writing of this letter.

A week or so since, my attention
was called to the fact that a gentleman
in Washington very wealthy, but still
more generous, had given of his own
private purse, a very large sum
of money, to pay the Teachers
of the Public Schools of that city.

I did not at first attend to
the name, being so much occupied
with the deed, but the name "Corcoran"
reminded me of my girlhood.

when being employed by the ladies
keeping fair-tables, we used to see
who would get the first donation
from M^r. Concoran; each one sure of
receiving some thing, for he never refused.

Little did I think, when
hearing the above, that he was the
same noble-hearted and high-minded
individual—supposing that he had
already gone to receive the reward
of his deeds of benevolence.

Thank God! he still lives
to be a benefactor—to suffering humanity.
May his years be blessed, and may
they be as numerous as his heart's
desires!

Now is the object of my letter—
having heard of a "Gallery of Arts",
bearing your name, and supposing
it to be yours, I venture to state to
you that a gentleman in this city,
who has been collecting Paintings
for some years, is now about to
start for Europe to dispose of them.
I have prevailed upon him to wait

intending to mention the subject
to you!

If you desire any of these
master-pieces (as they are said to be)
for yourself or for your country, I think
that you should have the preference.

Besides, in case you should
purchase the Paintings of this
gentleman, he will not be obliged
to absent himself from his family.

It will also be a consolation
to me to assist this good ^{man}, who
has been in his own day, such
a friend to us—for, you know, "The
Poor—we have always with us."

The gentleman (M^r. C. J. O'Hara)
will, if sufficient encouragement
be given, take the Paintings to
Washington or, if you prefer it, send
some suitable person to see them.

I cannot give my opinion upon
the Paintings, as I am no judge, but
much controversy has existed about
a "Crucifixion", said to be the original
of Velasquez's Don Diego; a "Last Supper"

Thayer. Sanford. (286)

Syracuse N.Y.

April 4. 1874.

Ans 2. Apr 9/74.

Offers portrait of himself
by B. L. Elliott, for sale.

Ans d. April 9/74

Syracuse, April. 4. 1874.

Mr. W. W. Corcoran;

Dear Sir -

Pardon me if I intrude myself upon you beyond the bounds of propriety and attribute my strange action to my peculiar mental, physical and financial condition, and after you have heard me should you deem it not worth your attention, please consign my letter to the flames and forget that such a bore as myself exists.

Since addressing you before I have learned something more of the Corcoran Gallery of art, and have had some serious thoughts, pro an con, of a matter which I have finally resolved to lay before you, viz. I have in my possession a chef-d'œuvre of the late Mr. Elliott, and one which he always considered to be in many respects

his best effort, and which has been pronounced by artists and connoisseurs unequalled in this country, and when on exhibition at the "Royal Academy", England, was said to be the best specimen of portraiture seen on its walls since the days of Sir Anthony Van Dyke. And, Mr. Corcoran, if I were to die to-morrow I had rather have the picture in some art collection than in the hands of any relative I have on earth.

Aside from any personal pride of mine, - the picture is a portrait of myself, - it seems to me but appropriate that our native and gifted artist Elliott should be represented by a few of his best works in the Corcoran Gallery of Art, for that must become in all future time the leading art collection of this nation. And Sir, since my present pecuniary embarrassment has set me to thinking, and the appropriateness of these suggestions

seems so plausible I take the liberty of entrusting you with it, and beg you will give it your thoughts and should it meet your approval drop me a line of advice or word of council; I throw myself entirely upon your good judgment and mercy.

On Monday next I shall ship my portrait of my lamented friend and tutor to the inspection of the Art Comm. And if I was sufficiently hopeful and thought these two pictures would be purchased for the institution that perpetuates your honorable name I should be happy to send them both off together. But I must close, pardon my importunity, while I remain respectfully Yours.

Sanford Thayer

Kennedy P. M. (287)
College Hill Conn.
Apl 8. 1874,

Apl 10 /74

Apl 10 /74

Will send to the
Gallery. pictures mentioned
in former letters.



~~Office of~~ WILLIAM H. FISHER,
Attorney at Law and Counsellor in Patent Cases,
No. 44 WEST FIFTH STREET,

(FOUNTAIN SQUARE)

College Hill Cincinnati, O. 8th April 1874

William Macleod Esq^r Washington

Dear Sir

I was waiting to hear from my friend General Scammon who takes a friendly interest in the disposal of the Pictures, I had the pleasure of offering to your inspection his aim, was to substantiate, what, I have already written to ^{you} regarding their genuineness and quality, through some friends in your City, allowing the Paintings themselves to rest on their merits alone. With this view I will send to your own address, packed in a Case so carefully, that there can be little chance of injury externally. (if you will kindly allow me to do so) "The Magdalene by P. P. Rubens after the transfiguration of Christ." and the "Barkelen Kamp" "The Interior of a Barons Hall with Cavaliers & Ladies arriving to Dinner" This picture is nearly 3 feet by 2 - and has been estimated for its worth to the Costume of the Time, and exquisite finish. It is about 230 years old - On the right hand Corner the ground has been slightly rubbed, but no injury to any of the figures. The Price for the two \$5000

I can give you thorough evidence as to the genuineness of these Works and satisfy you as the truth of what I have formerly mentioned, I have no doubt if once you have an opportunity of examining them, the internal evidence will be sufficient. My friend W. R. S. Jones will take all Charge of sending them, without any trouble to yourself but the necessary examination

I am Dear Sir
Yours respectfully
J. M. Kennedy

Ans'd May 10 1874

Lugner S. L. (288)

Brooklyn 618 Henry St.
Apr 15. 74

Ans'd Apr 9/74

Asks if Gallery would
part with Stearns' picture.

Ans'd Apr. 9th 74



618 Henry St.
Brooklyn
April 15th

Mr Macleod.

Dear Sir -

I understand that
my sister Mrs Pringle has
just sold the picture of
Chief Justice Shippen to the
Art Association - a Coenon
Art Gallery - one of my
children would be
much obliged to you to
say whether you are
willing to part with the
picture & on what terms -
if not already hung perhaps
the application is not too
late - I entreat an answer
as soon as convenient remaining
Very respectfully
Jas S. Lugner

Stevens Chs P. (289)

Bath April 11. 1874,
April 13/74,

Has sent Walnut seats
by Rail Road.

✓

CHARLES P STEVENS
MANUFACTURER

WAREROOMS

No. 3 S. Calvert

STREET.



FACTORY

No. 6 Low

STREET.

Cabinet Furniture.

A. Hoer & Co. Lith.

Baltimore April 11 1874

Mr Wm M Lard

Curator

Corcoran Gallery of Art

Dear Sir

The Walnut seats
were sent for RR today and
for same please find Bill
enclosed

I have had them
ready several days except the perfor-
ated seats which the A & Co that make
them kept me waiting

I trust they will reach you
safely & give satisfaction

I shut Thursday or Friday next
I will call on you & will be glad to
have further order. Yrs Truly

Chas P. Stevens

Charge No. (290)
N.Y. Apr 2/74,
Ans'd Apr 13/74.

The Busts were sent
by a special Agent and
should now be in Washington.

ans'd. Apr. 13

April 2^d. 1874

Mr MacLeod

I have received a
letter this morning, from
Columbia, saying the
Busts were to be sent by
a special agent, as there
were reasons why they
could not be sent by
express, & that they ought
to be in Washington before
this time - I hope they
are safely in your hands.
Regretting the delay &
annoyance of uncertainty.

and I beg to acknowledge
the receipt of Mr. Loring's
letter of the 3rd March
& yours also. I am

Respectfully
Yrs. - Wm. D. Ward

19. E. 31 11